

England may also be remembered as the longest in the annals of English history.

Signed on behalf of the Masters,
W. M. Furneaux, M.A. Oxon., Head Master.
 Signed on behalf of the Boys,
M. C. C. Seton, Head of the School.
 (Presented by Canon Furneaux).

To the QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty.
Most Gracious Sovereign,

WE, the Governors, Masters, and Scholars of Derby School desire this day, in common with all other dutiful and loyal subjects belonging to this town and county, humbly to express our devotion, affection, and zealous attachment to Your Royal Person, and to join in the general expression of gratitude for the great honour now paid by Your Majesty to this town, of which our School is one of the most ancient institutions.

That we should approach Your Majesty on this day, of all others, is an auspicious omen for our future prosperity. It was on this day, 337 years ago, that the Charter was signed by Your Royal predecessor, Queen Mary, re-constituting and providing in perpetuity for the old school, which has alone, perhaps, of all other English schools, rung its Curfew bell since the time of the Normans. Founded A.D. 1160, in the reign of Henry II, by that great prelate Walter Durdant, Bishop of Lichfield, it has for centuries educated the sons of Your Majesty's loyal subjects of Derby and Derbyshire. Within its walls was educated John Flamsteed, the first Astronomer Royal, at whose suggestion and under whose direction Your Majesty's Royal Observatory at Greenwich was first erected. The name of Flamsteed is but one from the long list of distinguished alumni who, up to the present time, have continued to do honour to their School and to the town of Derby.

The School for want of sufficient endowment languished during the first half of the present century, but during the last twenty-five years has regained its position among the leading schools of the country.

Twice during that period has it been considered worthy of the high honour of a visit from members of Your Majesty's august family.

In 1872 their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales visited the School and distributed the prizes, and twelve years later His Royal Highness again came to inspect the new building raised to commemorate the honour paid to the School by the former visit of their Royal Highnesses.

God grant that the presence of Your Majesty on this anniversary (remarkable to us as the day on which a former Queen of England gave by Her signature new life to Derby School) may mark the beginning of a new era of prosperity and usefulness for this ancient foundation, and that in years to come Your Majesty's Royal favour now shown may be revered and jealously guarded by Derby boys as their most cherished tradition, encouraging them to noble thoughts and deeds as worthy citizens of that great Empire over which Your Majesty so gloriously reigns.

Given under the Seal.

(Signed)

T. W. Evans, Chairman of the Governing Body.
James Robert Sterndale Bennett, M.A.,
 Head Master.

Thomas Lionel Chadwick, Captain of the School.

(Presented by Mr. J. Sterndale Bennett.)

To Her Most Gracious Majesty VICTORIA,
 Queen of Great Britain and Ireland.

WE, the Masters and Boys of Trent College, established in the year 1866, on the principles of the Protestant and Reformed Church of England, desire to welcome Your Majesty on the occasion of Your Majesty's visit to the town of Derby.

It is our earnest prayer that, as Supreme Head of Church and State, Your Majesty may live long to rule over a happy and united people, and that from the public schools of this country there may continue to spring forth year by year a harvest of young Englishmen ready to acknowledge as the gift of Almighty God the blessings of freedom, political, moral, and religious, which they enjoy, and to defend that freedom by their willing and intelligent obedience, by service unselfish and untiring, and by faithful and uncompromising loyalty to Your Majesty and to that religion—the religion of simple faith in God's Holy Word and God's Holy Spirit, the religion of civilization, progress, and enlightenment—of which Your Majesty is the acknowledged champion.

(Signed) *Wilfred H. Isaacs*, Head Master.

[Here followed the names of the Masters, Prefects, and Boys.]

(Presented by the Reverend W. H. Isaacs.)

To the QUEEN'S Most Excellent Majesty.

May it please Your Majesty,

WE, the Members of the Provincial Grand Lodge of Freemasons in Derbyshire, humbly desire to approach Your Majesty, and to assure you of our loyal attachment to your Throne and Person.

The object of Your Majesty's visit to this town is one in which we take a deep interest, the cause of charity being at all times one of the leading principles of our Order.

We rejoice that Your Majesty as Grand Patroness of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls and also of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys is directly connected with our fraternity, and we earnestly pray that Your Majesty may be long spared to rule over a loyal and united people.

Given under the Seal of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

(Signed)

H. C. Okeover, D.P.G.M. of Derbyshire.
 (Presented by Mr. H. C. Okeover.)

To Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen
 VICTORIA.

May it please Your Majesty,

WE, the Members of the Derby Chamber of Commerce, humbly desire on the happy occasion of Your Majesty's visit to this Borough, to express our heartfelt loyalty and devotion to Your Majesty's Person and Throne, and our appreciation of the honour You have done the town by consenting to perform the initial ceremony in the erection of a new Infirmary.

As representatives of the various branches of trade and commerce in Derby we beg to recall the fact that during Your Majesty's auspicious reign the population has trebled and the wealth and prosperity of the inhabitants have proportionately increased under that happy union of individual freedom and legal authority which has peculiarly distinguished the long period of Your Majesty's wise and beneficent rule.

We earnestly pray that Your Majesty may long continue to reign over a prosperous and united people, and may by the blessing of Almighty God be spared to witness a further advancement in that